

THE WEATHER

Today—Increasing cloudiness; probably showers at night. Tomorrow—Cooler; gentle winds. Highest temperature yesterday, 80; lowest, 50.

THE WASHINGTON HERALD

BE PATRIOTIC—use newspapers efficiently. When you have finished reading your copy of The Washington Herald, hand it to some person who has not seen one. Make each copy do double duty in wartime and help save paper.

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WASHINGTON, D. C., MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1918.

ONE CENT in Washington and Suburbs. Elsewhere Two Cents.

YANKS ADVANCE 2 MILES ON WIDE FRONT; GERMANY OFFERS TERMS TO BELGIUM; AUSTRIA PUTS FORWARD PEACE FEELER

PEACE WHINE OF AUSTRIA FACES ALLIED REJECTION

Dual Monarchy Seeks "Confidential Non-Binding Discussion" by Belligerents, but Entente Capitals Report Only Permanent Settlement of Hostilities Acceptable Now.

Amsterdam, Sept. 15.—A "confidential" non-binding discussion at a neutral meeting place is proposed by Austria-Hungary in the official statement issued at Vienna yesterday and the full text of which reached here today.

A note inviting all belligerents—friend and foe—to enter into such a discussion has been sent by the Austro-Hungarian government to all the countries at war, the unprecedented procedure of addressing its enemies directly being chosen by Vienna.

It is not an invitation to a peace conference, but to a "free exchange of views of the question as to whether the prerequisites exist that make a speedy inauguration of peace negotiations promising."

A special and separate note has been sent to the Vatican informing Pope Benedict of the Vienna government's step.

TEXT OF AUSTRIAN STATEMENT.

Amsterdam, Sept. 15.—Following is the text of the official statement issued at Vienna yesterday proposing peace:

"Conscientious examination of the situation in all the belligerent states no longer leaves any doubt that all peoples long for a speedy end of the bloody struggle.

"The Austro-Hungarian government, therefore, has resolved to point out to all belligerents—friend and foe—a practical path.

"It proposes that they jointly examine in a free exchange of views the question as to whether the prerequisites exist to make speedy inauguration of peace by negotiation promising.

"Austria-Hungary invites the belligerents to a confidential, non-binding discussion at a neutral meeting place and has addressed to them a note to this effect.

"The step has been brought to the knowledge of the Pope in a special note."

Paris Shuns Proposal.

Paris, Sept. 15.—The first sincere whine for peace, it is the characteristic heard in Paris tonight wherever the reported Austro-Hungarian peace offer was discussed.

The newspapers have not yet had time to comment on the event. Derivative rejection by the whole French press may, however, be safely anticipated.

"This is no time for a nonbinding discussion of peace," said one prominent French journalist in private conversation. "Unquestionably the offer is sincere this time. The central powers see at last the handwriting on the wall but there will be no other offer until finally will come the one and only declaration the allies will listen to: 'We give up, state your terms.'"

London Expects Rejection.

London, Sept. 15.—While official comment upon the reported Austro-Hungarian peace offer is withheld until the full text of the "invitation" has been received and studied by the government, it is a safe guess, based upon the present temperature of the British and allied press, that the offer will be flatly rejected.

Upon one point all officials and well-informed observers whom it has been possible up to early tonight to sound privately are unanimous: That the Vienna proposal is "made in Germany."

"Austria-Hungary merely acting as Berlin's cat's paw," is the opinion of the British government, it is agreed, fully realizing that any offer emanating from itself would fall upon deaf ears and has resolved to try its partner as a peddler of the olive branch.

Fear Increased Forces.

This belief was voiced by practically all military leaders here, both allied and American. They think that fear, fear of the irresistible force that is forming on the West front, actuates this peace proposal. They believe that if it is rejected that the next peace proposals will come from the allies, and that they will be terms from the victors to the vanquished.

One of the highest authorities in the capital explained the move in this manner:

"No one who has read what the Kaiser said to the people at Epsom, could but see the lack of confidence in his talk. He was really whistling to keep up his courage when he talked of the war. This is one indication of the peace move, but there are many others."

Austria is expected to transmit her note proposing a parley to the United States via Sweden. The latter government is in charge of Austro-Hungarian affairs in this country. The Swedish legation here, though, had not received word of the note last night.

ANARCHY REIGNS IN BLAGOVIESHTCHENSK

Bolsheviks Quarrelling Among Themselves in Rich City.

London, Sept. 15.—Anarchy reigns in Blagovieshtchensk, according to the Tien Tsin correspondent of the Week-End Dispatch. The Bolsheviks are quarrelling among themselves and their power is expected to collapse as soon as the allies approach the district.

Blagovieshtchensk is the capital of the rich gold mining district. The city has a population of 15,000. It lies 80 miles north of Harbin.

Either way, however, the allies

For the present, Austria's move will only reaffirm America's will to win. Officials consider it a reassuring sign of victory as they think it indicates the beginning of the disintegration of the Central Powers, or the final attainment of the Kaiser to obtain a negotiated peace while Germany maintains a pretense of invulnerability.

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BRITISH SHIP SUNK BY SUB NEAR ENGLAND

Galway Castle, Carrying 1,000 Persons, Torpedoed by U-Boat.

KNOWN CASUALTIES 154

Total May Reach 200, Mostly Women and Children.

London, Sept. 15.—On the last lap of her journey from South Africa, while approaching the English southwest coast, the 7,988-ton liner Galway Castle, carrying nearly 1,000 persons, including hundreds of women and children, was torpedoed and sunk by a U-boat last Friday, with consequences replete with all the horrors of the Lusitania crime.

Two passengers who have been landed lost all of their families.

Late tonight it was ascertained that the total loss of lives, so far known, is 154, but that it will probably reach the 200 mark.

Most of the victims are women and children.

Whole families were wiped out.

Honorable Burton on Board.

There were heart rending scenes following the explosion of the torpedo. Parents were hunting their children and children were crying for their parents. Women screamed and tore their hair in distraction.

The liner was torpedoed on Thursday at 6:30 in the evening.

Three boats containing altogether 150 men, women and children, were rescued, only a few of them being rescued.

Among the passengers was the Honorable Burton, minister of railways and harbors and railways and finance, of the Union of South Africa. He was saved. Dr. Buntine, another passenger, is among the missing.

The liner's master, Capt. Dyer, stuck to the bridge to the last. With him a handful of the members of the crew who refused to leave their captain, made desperate but futile efforts to save the vessel. The captain and these men escaped in the nick of time and have reached port.

Helpless women and children struggled for hours in the rough sea holding on to wreckage or rats. Many of these perished, it is feared. Hundreds of others floated in open boats until picked up by British patrol craft.

One lifeboat was smashed by the liner's propeller.

The Galway Castle belonged to the Union Castle Mail Steamship Company. She sailed from London, where she was built in 1914 by Harland and Wolff, Ltd.

The liner carried twenty first class, ten second class and ninety third class passengers.

CARDINAL FARLEY FEARED NEAR END

Condition of Church Leader Reported Very Low.

Mamaroneck, N. Y., Sept. 15.—Cardinal Farley was reported in a dying condition tonight at his summer home here. His condition which after improving took a sudden unfavorable turn on Saturday grew suddenly worse throughout today and his physicians held consultation this evening. Later it was stated that there is a slight possibility that he may rally. The following statement was issued by the Cardinal's secretary:

"Cardinal Farley's condition is critical. A heart weakness has developed in the last twenty-four hours from which there is a possibility he may rally."

The Cardinal's condition became critical several weeks ago, but he displayed remarkable recuperative powers despite his advanced age and was considered well on the road to recovery when Saturday's relapse occurred.

BRITISH FLIERS REAP TOLL.

Fell 4 Balloons, 6 Planes. Drop 8 Tons Dynamite.

London, Sept. 15.—Four German balloons and six hostile airplanes were brought down by the British yesterday in the Western battle zone, Field Marshal Haig announced in his statement on aviation tonight. Two British machines were lost. Eight A-9s bombs were dropped on various German targets.

WEARS VICTORY SMILE.

Baker Receives Ovation in London Theater.

London, Sept. 15.—Wearing a true victory smile, Secretary of War Baker appeared in the theater yesterday and Col. Biddle in a box at a theater performance for American troops on a furlough here tonight. The whole house rose and gave the American Secretary of War a rousing ovation. Secretary Baker said he had no statement to make for the present.

SUBMARINE REPORTED OFF COAST OF U. S.

U-Boat Fires on British Ship 80 Miles from New York.

New York, Sept. 15.—A British ship, now engaged in the transport service, was shelled by a U-boat within eighty miles of the entrance to New York Harbor. The German fired five shots but his aim was poor, and the steamer, by putting on full speed and aided by a heavy fog, managed to escape.

There were many passengers on the ship, among them several Canadian army officers, returning home on sick leave, some of them having been wounded in the recent fighting on the Western front.

The first shot fired by the raider landed within a few yards of the ship, but the others went wide of the mark.

RESTRICT NEWS TO HIDE PLAN OF METZ SIEGE

Strict Censorship Necessary to Insure Success of Bombardment.

FORT WILL BE Gassed

Hun Stronghold to Be Made Untenable by Killing Fumes.

The restrictions which, it is reported by cable, Gen. Pershing is throwing around his immediate movements are necessary, according to staff officers here, to screen plans of even greater military significance than the attack on the St. Mihiel salient.

These instructions of Gen. Pershing are compared with the order issued by Gen. Haig at the time he was preparing his first drive against Cambrai, which burst on the Germans like a meteor and surprised the German army with the forward movement of the tanks without artillery preparation.

It is noted, however, that Gen. Pershing puts no limitations on the news of the capture of towns and the position of his army when given out at his headquarters.

The particular action which staff officers think is demanded by the relative position of the advancing army of Gen. Pershing and that of the Germans falling back on Metz and in general in the valley of the Moselle, is the siege of Metz.

This fortress has fortifications for six or seven miles around it. It was thought impregnable during the Franco-German war, but it was captured by the Germans with their superior siege guns and Marshal Bazaine was forced to surrender with about 100,000 men.

Reduction of Metz Necessary.

There appears to be only one opinion here, in the absence of official announcement of Gen. Pershing's intentions, and that is that the reduction of Metz will be necessary, if the general forward movement of the American army operating in the siege is to be realized.

The whole spirit of Gen. Pershing's statements to the press Saturday was that there was to be drive after drive, with the American army sweeping on into Germany. The plan for the advance through the St. Mihiel salient was worked out by Pershing's staff, and that obviously included the taking of Metz. That can only be accomplished, it is stated, by a battering of the outer works by field and siege guns.

The staff says that a stupendous movement like that of the obliteration of the St. Mihiel salient would not have been undertaken without a definite plan for the capture of Metz, which is a cheval on the Moselle. But it can be taken from either side, it is stated. It is pointed out that the resistance would be untimely against the German guns, which are known to be in the fortress, and which it is known the American army has for this purpose.

No Defense Against Gas.

Great stress is laid here on the fact that there is no known artificial fortification which can resist the attack of gas shells. It is particularly noted in this connection that gas shells have not always been effective against trenches because the range is always a matter of delicate calculation. That difficulty does not beset the artillery, however, in delivering gas or any other shells against a fort whose position and distance are known to a mathematical certainty. The siege of Metz by Gen. Pershing may therefore be a totally different operation from that of Von Moltke's artillery against that citadel. It will be quite different even from that of the battering of the defenses of Liege by the German big guns at the opening of the war.

The task ahead of Gen. Pershing now seems to be to stabilize his army with special reference to the capture of Metz. Opinion seems to be gaining ground that it would not be good military policy for him to advance and leave an army of say 30,000 Germans in the fortress who would be in position to make a flank attack.

There is, however, also the opinion that as soon as the bombardment of Metz begins with the gas shell, the fortress will be untenable, and that there will be a further German retreat. This is precisely what happened to the remaining massed German forces in another part of the war theater after the reduction of St. Quentin and Lille.

BUYING RUSSIA HUNS IMPOSED HARSH TERMS

Keep of Red Guards and Vladivostok Attempt Paid for by Berlin.

CONTROL BY PERFDY

Rigid Economic Sway Is Gained by Treachery of Bolsheviki.

Before the vast loot of practically the whole of Russia lay open to Germany and its Bolshevik co-conspirators, the imperial government exacted a staggering return for the corrupting gold it had turned over to Lenin and Trotsky, its trusted agents from the beginning.

Lavish and unquestioning as a bribe before and during the Lenin-Trotsky revolution, Germany proved merciless and insistent in its demands for power and plunder as soon as Russia's betrayers were in a position to deliver.

Second Batch of Evidence.

These and other equally shameful facts of secret complicity and plotting of the Bolshevik chiefs with their German masters are made clear to the world in the second installment of official disclosures now being made by the United States government through the Committee of Public Information.

It is apparent from the incriminating nature of the material made public yesterday, west as the further evidence which is to be issued day by day during the remainder of the week, that the United States has firmly set itself to the task of completely unmasking the perfidy of the Bolshevik premier and war minister.

And underlying the whole expose is the main purpose of revealing Germany's major role as instigator and chief beneficiary of the plot to depose and subjugate the Russian nation. The intention to publish the entire series of confidential documents is vitally significant as indicating a determination by the United States to show the Berlin nation-baiters no more quarter in the court of public opinion than upon the field of battle.

Paid for Red Guards.

First as bearing upon Germany's role as arch briber it is proved that 50,000,000 rubles in gold were placed to the credit of the Lenin-Trotsky regime by the German Imperial Bank.

Four days later 5,000,000 rubles in gold were furnished the same Bolshevik chiefs from the same source to secure or destroy the "Japanese and American war materials" at Vladivostok.

Indisputable proof of both of these transactions is contained in letters from President von Schanz, of the German Imperial Bank, to the German foreign affairs of the United States government now has in its possession photographic copies of both letters, in support of the fact that they each bear the mark, "very secret."

The first letter is dated January 8, 1918, and is, in part, as follows:

"Information has today been received by me from Stockholm that 20,000,000 rubles of gold has been transferred to be put at disposal of the representatives of the people's commissars. This credit has been supplied to the Russian government by the order to cover the cost of the keep of the Red Guards and agitators in the country. The imperial government considers it appropriate to remind the soviet of people's commissars of the necessity of increasing their propaganda in the country, as the antagonistic attitude of the south of Russia and Siberia to the existing government is troubling the German government."

Troops Well Paid.

It is known from Washington that members of the Red Guard were paid from 12 to 16 rubles a day, whereas the soldiers were paid hardly that number of kopeks. The Bolshevik government also required factory workers to pay regular wages to their workers who served in the Red Guard. The excesses and crimes subsequently committed by these bribed assassins and plunderers are now matters of history.

The letter providing the money to insure the seizure or destruction of the munition stores at Vladivostok bears a Berlin date line of January 12, 1918, and the first paragraph says:

"I am instructed to convey the agreement of the Imperial Bank to the issue of a credit of 5,000,000 rubles for the dispatch of the assistant naval commissar, Kudrinsk, to the Far East."

Instructions are then given as to how to proceed with the task of securing or destroying the allies' rich stores. The concluding paragraph of the letter contains the interesting order that the German agents and spies to be employed in the undertaking "should receive the agreed amounts and then proceed to."

MOVING FROM MOSCOW.

Bolsheviki Considers Present Russian Capital Unhealthy.

Amsterdam, Sept. 15.—The Soviet government is reported to be leaving Moscow. The growing unrest in the Russian capital is said to have made it too unsafe for the Bolshevik chief to remain there.

U. S. FLIER DOWNS 3 HUNS.

Triple Victory Occurred on Lorraine Front.

With the American Army in Lorraine, Sept. 15.—Lieut. Charles R. Dolive, of Chicago, destroyed three Fokkers on Friday, in his third flight over the fighting line.

Lieuts. Carruthers and Harding, who shot down a German machine each, confirmed Dolive's triple victory.

TERROR REIGN RULES RUSSIA

Red Guards Reported Beyond Control by Escaped Officer.

London, Sept. 15.—Appalling details of the reign of terror in Russia were given the correspondent today by a Russian staff officer recently arrived after braving death, escaping in disguise.

The man is none other than Col. Doukhonin, who was chief of staff of Gen. Brusiloff during the Galician victories.

"The Red Guards," said he, "are now completely beyond the control of their leaders. They cruise about in armored cars, prey on the defenseless people, break into houses, steal, ravish, and murder."

Believes Petrograd Affair.

Col. Doukhonin left Petrograd some weeks ago, but he believes reports from Scandinavia that the former capital is burning and that general massacre reigns supreme.

"This," he said, "was inevitable, and more worse is yet to come. For no power but God can prevent the starvation of many millions of people this winter. Where is the wealth of the population of North Russia, where no crops exist, I cannot see."

Col. Doukhonin is penniless, but happy because a friend bought him a new watch, a second hand clock of St. George. This is the highest Russian decoration for gallantry. He won it for his bravery in the battle against the Germans, but had to bury it before deserting himself as a common soldier and starting on the 1,200 mile trip, much of it by foot through the frozen wastes to the allied lines. His cross and the other decorations he could not carry. He lost them from the breast of his soldier's boot fifteen ribbons that go with the orders he is entitled to wear.

Plot Against Aristocrats.

"These bits of ribbon," he said, "almost cost me my life last month. While I was sleeping in a shed with a lot of Bolshevik soldiers one of them got my boot by mistake and found the ribbons. I was asleep. He told his friends about the discovery and they decided I was an escaping aristocrat and planned to kill me."

"When I awoke there were four men with bayonets who sneered and showed me the ribbons."

"Comrades," I said, "they are my trophies of our war against the bourgeoisie. I looted officers from the breast of a general I killed with my bayonet."

"I added a lot of convincing details and they believed me and gave me back the ribbons."

"Here I am, but what does life hold for me now? I have only one wish: that I may die in battle against Germany."

POLICE DRILL FOR OFFICIALS THURSDAY

Commissioner Louis Brownlow and other District and Federal government officials are scheduled to witness an exhibition of military close-order of the metropolitan police on the White House Ellipse next Thursday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock.

Commissioners of the police department, sergeants and candidates for sergeants have been drilled for four weeks under the Lentz system, by which the men give themselves their own commands, and the drill next Thursday will be a demonstration to District officials of how much can be taught in such short time under the newer method of instruction in the regular army drill regulations.

Lathrop Meaker Talks On Internationalism

Internationalism was the subject of a lecture by Lathrop Meaker, of Lawrence, Mass., yesterday afternoon at the Pythian Temple, 1012 Ninth street northwest. Mr. Meaker compared internationalism to the human body, making each organ a unit in itself, which does not conflict with any other organ, and yet is ruled by the brain, which controls all the individual parts. Mr. Meaker led up to the subject of internationalism, which will be the topic of next Sunday's lecture.

Americans Capture 18,000 Men and 100 Guns in Lorraine Drive. Liberate 150 Square Miles.

METZ UNDER U. S. SHELL FIRE

Germans Hurl Six Divisions Into Battle Around St. Mihiel Against Pershing—One-fourth Taken.

Amsterdam, Sept. 15.—Germany has made a definite peace offer to Belgium. Germany offers restoration of Belgium's political and economic independence, providing the commercial treaties in force before the war are to be resumed and continued in operation. Germany also seeks Belgium's aid at the peace table for the restoration of the German colonies.

No offer of reparation is contained in Germany's peace bid.

Eighteen thousand prisoners, 100 guns of all calibers, hundreds of machine guns and trench mortars have been taken by the Americans, and 150 square miles of territory have been liberated from the enemy, according to Gen. Pershing's communique received last night.

Gen. Pershing also reports that the British and Italians assisted materially in bombing the enemy. Great quantities of ammunition and equipment and railroad cars were abandoned by the enemy.

AMERICANS SHELL METZ.

London, Sept. 15.—The great German Lorraine fortress of Metz is under long-range fire from the American guns.

The correspondent learns that since yesterday afternoon the Americans have advanced from two to three miles on a front of thirty-three miles.

American patrols have advanced two miles farther. It appears that the Germans are withdrawing to a line protecting the Metz rail communications.

Six German divisions have been operating in the St. Mihiel area. Their total strength was 60,000, with a rifle strength of 35,000. One quarter of these forces have been captured.

This reduces the German strength on the West front to 191 divisions plus four Austro-Hungarian divisions.

TWO MORE TOWNS TAKEN BY YANKS.

The following official communique from Gen. Pershing was made public last night by the War Department through the Committee on Public Information:

"Headquarters American Expeditionary Forces, France, Sept. 15, 1918.

"Section A—In the St. Mihiel sector, there was increased artillery and aviation activity.

"A counter attack launched by the enemy at daybreak near St. Hilaire was easily repulsed and a number of prisoners taken.

"On the left bank of the Moselle our lines have been advanced one to two miles and now include the towns of Vilcey and Morroy.

"The normal extension of our line beyond Jaulny resulted in the bringing in of seventy-two additional guns abandoned by the enemy in his hasty retreat. This brings the total number of guns captured to date to more than two hundred."

BRITISH TAKE MAISSSEMY.

London, Sept. 15.—The village of Maissemy, with the trench system to the southeast and east, was captured by the British today, Field Marshal Haig announced in his communique tonight. This brings the British line within less than five miles northwest of St. Quentin. A hundred prisoners and a number of machine guns were captured.

The German artillery has been active south of the Arras-Cambrai road.

Metz Under Bombardment.

Paris, Sept. 15.—Metz, the great German fortress taken from the French as a spoil of the Franco-Prussian war forty-seven years ago, is under long range bombardment by French and American guns.

The Germans are still falling back before the relentless forward push of Gen. Pershing's first American army.

Since yesterday morning the Americans have advanced between two and three miles along a thirty-three mile front. They are shepherding the enemy northward, driving him to the line where he must make a stand if he wants to save the approaches to Metz.

American patrols pushed two miles ahead of the main forces, making an advance altogether of five miles since yesterday morning.

Latest authoritative figures place the total of prisoners in American hands counted so far at 18,000. A hundred cannon were captured. These totals do not include the French captives.

Pershing Praises Troops.

Gen. Pershing, in his communique, praises the "dash and vigor" of his troops as well as the valiance of the

French co-operating with the American army. He emphasizes the haste with which the Germans retreated, many bridges being left intact because the enemy found no time to destroy them.

Marshal Foch personally congratulated the American commander-in-chief yesterday upon the brilliant victory which resulted in the liberation of 150 square miles of French soil.